Dear FCC,

Maintaining one license class that requires Morse Code is in no way a detriment to those who wish to enter the hobby of Amateur Radio, and maintaining a Morse Code requirement for the Amateur Extra Class License will help assure we maintain a pool of qualified Morse Code operators within the US. I strongly urge you to maintain a Morse Code requirement for the Amateur Radio Extra Class License.

As recently demonstrated during this years Hurricane season, so called modern digital technology failed miserably, and technology that was thought of as being obsolete turned out to be the saving grace of the emergency communications system. Some of the communications that took place during the hurricane communications effort reverted back to Morse Code, and it's critical that we maintain a pool of skilled Morse code operators in the United States.

The only way we can assure the survival of one of the most efficient modes of communications is to maintain the concept of incentive licensing for the Amateur Radio Extra Class License through the Morse Code requirement for the Extra Class License.

Sincerely,

Don Kirk (wd8dsb) 14267 Delaney Drive Fishers, IN 446038